



Gregory J Nickels, Mayor

# Mayor Greg Nickels' One-Year Report Card

## In Response to the Recommendations of the Economic Opportunity Task Force

June 12, 2003

### IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION

- ☐ Secured \$177 million in State funding for the Alaskan Way Viaduct.
- ☐ Secured \$3 million in State funding for the South Lake Union Street Car.

### SUPPORT HIGHER EDUCATION & THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

- ☐ Introduced Legislation to remove the City's lease lid on the UW; pending Full Council vote on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

### SIMPLIFY LAND-USE & ZONING CODES & IMPROVE CITY'S PERMIT PROCESS

- ☐ Issued Executive order to City Departments establishing target cycle times & goals.
- ☐ Reduced application appointment wait times from 4 weeks to 10 working days.

### REVIEW THE TAXATION OF TECHNOLOGY BASED BUSINESSES

- ☐ Exempted Research & Development activity from City B&O Tax.

### EXAMINE UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- ☐ Introduced legislation permitting the installation of fiber optic cable in city sewers to improve City's telecommunications infrastructure; Council passed June 9<sup>th</sup>.

### FOCUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ON DISTRESSED BUSINESS DISTRICTS

- ☐ **University District:** Secured \$250K in private funding for additional SPD presence in the U-District; completed retail and housing market analysis.
- ☐ **Rainier Valley:** Started distributing supplemental mitigation payments to impacted businesses through the \$50 million Community Development Fund.
- ☐ **Pioneer Square:** Established Alcohol Impact Area to restrict alcohol sales; Provided City funding for rehabilitation of three historic buildings.
- ☐ **Northgate:** Proposed removing barriers to the redevelopment of Northgate Mall and moving forward on a package of community and neighborhood investments.

### IMPROVE CUSTOMER SERVICE

- ☐ Launched Business Advocate Services to support businesses in navigating city regulations – call 684-BIZZ for assistance.

### REDUCE OBSTACLES TO EMPLOYMENT & APPRENTICESHIPS

- ☐ Created the Contracting Development and Competitiveness Center to improve access to City construction contracts.
- ☐ Secured \$1 million federal grant to provide technology training for City and low-income workers in cooperation with the Workforce Development Council, King County and (IFPTE) Local 17.
- ☐ Established the Construction Industry Workforce Advisory Committee with the County, Port and Sound Transit to expand access to apprenticeships to women and people of color.

### MARKET SEATTLE INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY

- ☐ Established the Mayor's Film & Music Office to promote music industry.
- ☐ Redesigned Office of Economic Development website with more user-friendly content for businesses.

### DEVELOP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TARGETING BUSINESS SECTORS

- ❑ Invested in infrastructure in South Lake Union as a hub for biotech and life sciences industry.